

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An imaging system comprising:

an image picking-up unit for producing a signal by receiving light from an object;

a retaining unit for retaining the image picking-up unit;

a first retaining unit for retaining the image picking-up unit; and

an optical unit for focusing an object image on the image picking-up unit, the optical unit comprising:

a movable group;

a second retaining unit for retaining a lens unit;

a supporting unit for movably supporting the second retaining unit; and

a driving unit for driving the second retaining unit,

wherein the optical unit is transitional between a first mode for shooting and a second mode for non-shooting, and the supporting unit and the driving unit are located within a cylinder for substantially containing a tilting unit to dispose about an optical axis as a center while are arranged so as to move together with the movable group and to avoid the image picking-up unit and the retaining unit viewed from the optical axial direction.

2. A system according to Claim 1, wherein the first retaining unit comprises the tilting unit for tilting an imaging surface of the image picking-up unit relative to a surface perpendicular to the optical axis.

3. A system according to Claim 2, further comprising a detecting unit for detecting that the second retaining unit is located at a predetermined position,

wherein the detecting unit is located within a cylinder for containing the tilting unit disposed about the optical axis as a center while is arranged so as to move together with the movable group and to avoid the image picking-up unit and the tilting unit viewed from the optical axial direction.

4. An imaging system comprising:

an image picking-up unit for producing a signal by receiving light from an object;

a retaining unit for retaining the image picking-up unit; and

an optical unit for focusing an object image on the image picking-up unit, the optical unit comprising:

a second retaining unit for retaining a lens unit;

a supporting unit for movably supporting the second retaining unit; and

a driving unit for driving the second retaining unit,
wherein the optical unit is transitional between a
first mode for shooting and a second mode for non-shooting,
and the supporting unit and the driving unit are located in
the optical means so as to avoid the image picking-up unit
and the retaining unit viewed from the optical axial
direction.

5. A system according to Claim 1, further comprising a
correcting unit for correcting the inclination of the image
picking-up unit,

wherein in the second mode, the supporting unit is
located in the optical unit so as to avoid the image
picking-up unit and the correcting unit viewed from the
optical axial direction.